

March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Lent



Come Worship the Living



PRELUDE

OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

UMH 57

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

2. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.

3. Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.

4. He breaks the power of canceled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.

5. He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

6. Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Savior come,
and leap, ye lame, for joy.

7. In Christ, your head, you then shall know,
shall feel your sins forgiven;
anticipate your heaven below,
and own that love is heaven.

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE

John 9:1-41

NRSV

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. 4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." 6 When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, 7 saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. 8 The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" 9 Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." 10 But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" 11 He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." 12 They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." 13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14 Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15 Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." 16 Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. 17 So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." 18 The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19 and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" 20 His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, 21 but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who

NLT

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. 2 "Rabbi," his disciples asked him, "why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?" 3 "It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him. 4 We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work. 5 But while I am here in the world, I am the light of the world." 6 Then he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and spread the mud over the blind man's eyes. 7 He told him, "Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam" (Siloam means "sent"). So the man went and washed and came back seeing! 8 His neighbors and others who knew him as a blind beggar asked each other, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?" 9 Some said he was, and others said, "No, he just looks like him!" But the beggar kept saying, "Yes, I am the same one!" 10 They asked, "Who healed you? What happened?" 11 He told them, "The man they call Jesus made mud and spread it over my eyes and told me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash yourself.' So I went and washed, and now I can see!" 12 "Where is he now?" they asked. "I don't know," he replied. 13 Then they took the man who had been blind to the Pharisees, 14 because it was on the Sabbath that Jesus had made the mud and healed him. 15 The Pharisees asked the man all about it. So he told them, "He put the mud over my eyes, and when I washed it away, I could see!" 16 Some of the Pharisees said, "This man Jesus is not from God, for he is working on the Sabbath." Others said, "But how could an ordinary sinner do such miraculous signs?" So there was a deep division of opinion among them. 17 Then the Pharisees again questioned the man who had been blind and demanded, "What's your opinion about this man who healed you?" The man replied, "I think he must be a prophet." 18 The Jewish leaders still refused to believe the man had been blind and could now see, so they called in his parents. 19 They asked them, "Is this your son? Was he born blind? If so, how can he now see?" 20 His parents replied, "We

opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." 22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. 23 Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." 24 So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." 25 He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." 26 They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" 27 He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" 28 Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29 We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." 30 The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. 31 We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. 32 Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." 34 They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. 35 Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 36 He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." 37 Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." 38 He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. 39 Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." 40 Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" 41 Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

know this is our son and that he was born blind, 21 but we don't know how he can see or who healed him. Ask him. He is old enough to speak for himself." 22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who had announced that anyone saying Jesus was the Messiah would be expelled from the synagogue. 23 That's why they said, "He is old enough. Ask him." 24 So for the second time they called in the man who had been blind and told him, "God should get the glory for this, because we know this man Jesus is a sinner." 25 "I don't know whether he is a sinner," the man replied. "But I know this: I was blind, and now I can see!" 26 "But what did he do?" they asked. "How did he heal you?" 27 "Look!" the man exclaimed. "I told you once. Didn't you listen? Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" 28 Then they cursed him and said, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses! 29 We know God spoke to Moses, but we don't even know where this man comes from." 30 "Why, that's very strange!" the man replied. "He healed my eyes, and yet you don't know where he comes from? 31 We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but he is ready to hear those who worship him and do his will. 32 Ever since the world began, no one has been able to open the eyes of someone born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he couldn't have done it." 34 "You were born a total sinner!" they answered. "Are you trying to teach us?" And they threw him out of the synagogue. 35 When Jesus heard what had happened, he found the man and asked, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 36 The man answered, "Who is he, sir? I want to believe in him." 37 "You have seen him," Jesus said, "and he is speaking to you!" 38 "Yes, Lord, I believe!" the man said. And he worshiped Jesus. 39 Then Jesus told him, "I entered this world to render judgment—to give sight to the blind and to show those who think they see that they are blind." 40 Some Pharisees who were standing nearby heard him and asked, "Are you saying we're blind?" 41 "If you were blind, you wouldn't be guilty," Jesus replied. "But you remain guilty because you claim you can see.

SERMON

Facing the Cross: Healing Our Birth Defects

Pastor Claudia Stallings

PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be
done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CONSECRATING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,

Praise Him all creatures here below,

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HYMN

Heal Me, Hands of Jesus

UMH 262

1 Heal me, hands of Jesus,
and search out all my pain;
restore my hope, remove my fear,
and bring me peace again.

2 Cleanse me, blood of Jesus,
take bitterness away;
let me forgive as one forgiven
and bring me peace today.

3 Know me, mind of Jesus,
and show me all my sin;
dispel the memories of guilt
and bring me peace within.

4 Fill me, joy of Jesus;
anxiety shall cease,
and heaven's serenity be mine,
for Jesus brings me peace!

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

PRAYER REQUESTS

Virginia Abbott
Alice Alford
Matt Amason
Betty Lou Brame
Peggy Burch
Mabel Campbell
Melinda Campbell
Justin Chamberlain
Mitzie Conner
Ralph Conner
Lois Crafton
Dot Davis
Mitch Early
Jimmy Edwards
Sherry Fox

Cicero Gainer
Jackie Gray
Sibyle Harmon
Elnora Holmes
Nancy Hulon
Brittany Johnson
Emogene Kraft
Judy McDaniel
Andrew Miles
Joe Miller Sr.
Debbie Mullins
Frances Owen
David Pittman
Sara Katherine Reid
Vance Richardson

Sheri Ruggles
Tim Ruggles
Amy Salley
Janet Sheek
Nell Simmons
Fred Snyder
Darlene Thomas
Helen Wallace
Curtis Walsh
Jeff Walsh
Iris Ward
Sally Wheat

UPCOMING EVENTS

Full calendar can be found at www.ramseymemorial.org

March 23	Prayer Group	(11:00am)
March 26	Lenten Study	(9:00am, CLC Lobby)
March 26	5th Sunday of Lent	(10:00am, Sanctuary)
March 30	Prayer Group	(11:00am)
April 2	Lenten Study	(9:00am, CLC Lobby)
April 2	Palm Sunday/Cantata	(10:00am, Sanctuary)

Scan the QR code below to be
directed to our online giving
resource!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

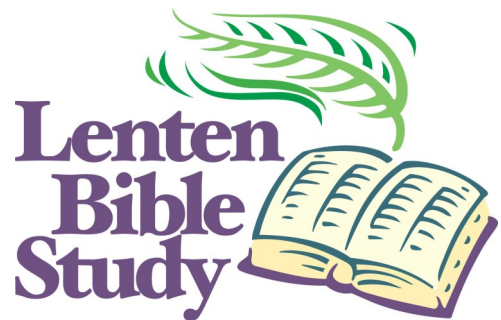


Our 2023 Lenten Offering will run from February 26 through Easter Sunday, April 9. We have set a goal of \$6,000 to assess our church security, update the Tower for our youth, and paint parking spaces closest to the church. Whether you give online through Vanco or in the offering plate, please include the designation "Lenten Offering" in the note or memo section.

During Lent, Ramsey Church is studying together "He Chose the Nails" by Max Lucado.

Sundays, February 26-April 2 at 9:00AM in the CLC Lobby.

Study Guides are available. To receive a copy, call or email the church office at 804-276-4628 / admin@ramseymemorial.org.



A donation of \$10 is appreciated but not required.



Please submit your order to the church office by March 27, using the form on the next page.

If you have questions, please contact the church office at

admin@ramseymemorial.org or 804-276-4628.

Ramsey Church and J.L. Francis Elementary School partner together to help support our neighborhood children. On Thursday, March 30th volunteers are needed from 5:30-7:30pm to be greeters at their SOL Kick-off. On Friday, April 28th from 8:00am-1:00pm volunteers will assist with the Book Tasting Event in the School Library. To volunteer for either event contact Sally Wheat: 804-447-9214 / SallyWheat@aol.com.





If you would like to order a flower to dedicate *in memory of* or *in honor of* a loved one, please fill out this form and return it to the church office no later than **March 27.**

In MEMORY of:

Given by:

In HONOR of:

Given by:

Please note quantity:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lilies in MEMORY of | <input type="checkbox"/> Lilies in HONOR of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrangeas in MEMORY of | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrangeas in HONOR of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tulips in MEMORY of | <input type="checkbox"/> Tulips in HONOR of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hyacinths in MEMORY of | <input type="checkbox"/> Hyacinths in HONOR of |

If paying via check, please write "Easter Flowers" in the notes section.

Please pick up your flowers following the Easter Sunday service.

Special Church Pricing for Spring Blooming Plants

Includes a pot cover for Easter, April 9, 2023



Easter Lily	6.5" pot, 4-6 blooms	\$13.50
Hydrangea	8" pot, pink, white * or blue, 5-6 blooms	\$20.00
Tulips	6.5" pot, assort. colors based on availability	\$12.50
Hyacinths	6.5" pot, assort. colors based on availability	\$12.50